

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
GREENVILLE DIVISION

Bridges Ann Mealing,	)	
	)	C.A. No. 6:08-2478-HMH-WMC
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
vs.	)	<b>OPINION AND ORDER</b>
	)	
Michael J. Astrue, Commissioner of	)	
Social Security Administration,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	

This matter is before the court on a motion for attorney’s fees pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act (“EAJA”). See 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(A). Bridges Ann Mealing (“Mealing”) seeks attorney’s fees for services rendered in the above-captioned social security action in the amount of Four Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-Two Dollars and Ninety Cents (\$4,792.90) (calculated at \$167.00 per hour for 28.7 hours) and \$16.00 in expenses and \$7.00 in costs.<sup>1</sup> The Commissioner does not object to the request for attorney’s fees and expenses.<sup>2</sup> Further, the court finds the hourly rate and number of hours to be reasonable.

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<sup>1</sup> “[A]ttorney’s fees under the EAJA are payable to the claimant, not the attorney” and “it is settled law that the attorney does not have standing to apply for the EAJA fees; that right belongs to the prevailing party.” Stephens v. Astrue, 565 F.3d 131, 137-38 (4th Cir. 2009) (internal quotation marks omitted).

<sup>2</sup> Costs are paid from the Department of Justice Judgment Fund.

Therefore, it is

**ORDERED** that Mealing is awarded attorney's fees in the amount \$4,792.90, expenses in the amount of \$16.00, and costs in the amount of \$7.00.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

s/Henry M. Herlong, Jr.  
Senior United States District Judge

Greenville, South Carolina  
October 5, 2009